



**JOINT INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE AUTHORITY**  
 SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

The International Bridge Administration today announced that one-way traffic crossings of the International Bridge at Sault Ste. Marie totaled 157,183 for the month of May, 2003. This figure represents a decrease of 9.9% as compared to May, 2002.

Traffic statistics for the month are as follows:

| <i><b>Vehicle Classification</b></i>    | <i><b>One-Way Crossings</b></i> | <i><b>Percent of Inc/Dec. from 5/02</b></i> | <i><b>Percent of Total Crossings</b></i> |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <i><b>Full-Fare Passenger Cars:</b></i> | 77,088                          | -13.3%                                      | 49.0%                                    |
| <i><b>Commuter Fare:</b></i>            | 64,756                          | -5.9%                                       | 41.2%                                    |
| <i><b>Cars Pulling Trailers:</b></i>    | 4,994                           | -3.4%                                       | 3.2%                                     |
| <i><b>Commercial Trucks:</b></i>        | 10,345                          | -10.1%                                      | 6.6%                                     |
| <i><b>Totals:</b></i>                   | 157,183                         |   | 100%                                     |

Traffic for calendar year 2003 has totaled 693,419 vehicles; this represents a decrease of 9.4 % as compared to 2002. Since the bridge opened in 1962, over 73,928,000 vehicles have crossed the structure.

### ***Manager's Note:***

Another busy year is planned for maintenance work on the bridge. Contractors repainting the steel support beams beneath the bridge deck on the Northern most 13 spans will be busy throughout the summer. International Bridge Administration (IBA) maintenance employees will be busy working on the full length of the 40+ year old bridge. Safety of bridge workers and our customers is a top priority. Please abide by posted speed limits on the bridge and be especially careful in the areas of construction activity. Traffic will be maintained during all construction activities.

Also, please note that recently there have been very few backups on the bridge and those that have occurred are of crossings can be accessed through the IBA website at [www.michigan.gov/mdot](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot). Click on "Bridges, Borders and Ferries", click on "International Bridge", click on "Customs and Immigration" and click on either "U.S. Customs" or "Canada Customs".

Sincerely,

***International Bridge Administration***

Phillip M. Becker, P.E.  
 General Manager

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